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Agenda items 17 and 18

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Identical letters dated 2 January 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write in connection to the briefing heard by the Security Council on Friday, 21 December 2007, during its consideration of the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question.

Though the briefing rightfully informed the Council that the "Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit is spending his nineteenth month in captivity in Gaza", it neglected to mention that Corporal Shalit has been denied any contact with the outside world, including visits from humanitarian and medical organizations like the Red Cross. Gilad Shalit, 21 years old, was kidnapped on 25 June 2006, after Palestinian terrorists attacked an Israeli army position outside the Gaza Strip and killed one IDF soldier and injured four others. Since then, there has been no verification of his health or condition.

Similarly, the briefing omitted the kidnapped Israeli soldiers Ehud Goldwasser and Eldad Regev, abducted by Hizbullah terrorists in an unprovoked cross-border attack on 12 July 2006, which also resulted in the killing of three other soldiers. Ehud Goldwasser, 32 years old, had just married his wife, Karnit, 10 months prior to his kidnapping by Hizbullah. At the time of abduction, Eldad Regev, 27 years old, was finishing his preparatory courses for law school.

The international community must be made aware of this severe situation, particularly as the conditions and whereabouts of the kidnapped soldiers remains unknown. The Red Cross must be allowed to visit the soldiers, and access should be granted to ensure their medical attention and treatment. Information regarding their health conditions and sign of life must be given as well. The denial of contact between the soldiers and the outside world is wholly unacceptable, and in contravention of international law.

08-20086 (E) 040108

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as an official document of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 17, "Situation in the Middle East", and 18, "Question of Palestine", and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dan **Gillerman**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/62/630–S/2008/4

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Agenda item 17
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Identical letters dated 2 January 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On the instructions of my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations from 15 to 21 December 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 17, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

08-20092 (E) 040108 040108

Annex to the identical letters dated 2 January 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Subject: Israeli violations, acts of aggression and other activities from 15 to 21 December 2007

Air violations

On 16 December 2007, between 0812 hours and 0813 hours, enemy Israeli military aircraft overflew the Bekaa region at high altitude.

Between 1030 hours and 1500 hours, enemy Israeli military aircraft overflew the Tibnin and Bint Jubayl regions at high altitude.

At 2239 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tyre in a northerly direction as far as al-Zahrani and circled over the southern regions. It departed on 17 December 2007 at 0100 hours over al-Naqurah.

On 17 December 2007, between 0905 hours and 1038 hours, two enemy Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Rumaysh and circled over Shikka, Beirut and the South. They departed over Rumaysh.

Between 1038 hours and 1210 hours, four Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Kafr Kila and circled over the Tripoli, Shikka, Beirut and South regions. They departed over Kafr Kila.

Between 1240 hours and 1700 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over Kafr Kila and circled over the southern regions. It departed over `Alma al-Sha`b.

Between 2150 hours and 2200 hours, three enemy Israeli helicopters overflew Lebanese regional waters off Ras al-Naqurah. They departed in the direction of occupied Palestinian territory.

On 18 December 2007, between 0955 hours and 1100 hours, intermittently, enemy Israeli military aircraft overflew the Naqurah, Tyre and Sidon regions at high altitude, breaking the sound barrier over the aforementioned regions.

Between 1830 hours and 1900 hours, enemy Israeli aircraft overflew the Naqurah, Bint Jubayl and Tibnin regions at high altitude.

On 20 December 2007, between 0910 hours and 1000 hours, enemy Israeli military aircraft overflew the Tyre and Naqurah regions at high altitude, breaking the sound barrier.

Sea violations

On 16 December 2007, at 1345 hours, off Ras al-Naqurah, an enemy Israeli military launch crossed the string of buoys approximately 20 metres into Lebanese waters. It departed at 1355 hours in the direction of occupied Palestinian waters.

Acts of aggression in the field

On 15 December 2007, the Israeli enemy conducted a training drill during which it fired flare shells at 0200 hours in the vicinity of its Ruwaysat al-'Alam position (opposite Kafr Shuba).

Between 1930 hours and 2000 hours, enemy Israeli forces fired several rounds of medium-weapons fire from their Samaqah position (opposite Kafr Shuba) inside the occupied Shab'a farmlands in the direction of the area surrounding the position.

On 17 December 2007, at 1815 hours, an enemy Israeli forces patrol (consisting of three Hummer jeeps) set up a water pump at the crossing inside occupied Palestinian territory opposite the town of Kafr Kila and pumped rainfall runoff that had accumulated on the paved road used by their vehicles inside occupied territory. This resulted in water being discharged onto the Kafr Kila-'Adaysah public road in Lebanese territory.

On 20 December 2007, at 1735 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight from the western gate of the Zar'it barracks in the direction of the road leading to the Marwahin-Ramiyah-Balat triangle and Tarbikha for one and a half minutes. At 2115 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight from the same barracks in the direction of the same place for three minutes.

On 21 December 2007, between 1735 hours and 2200 hours, the Israeli enemy shone a searchlight from the western gate of the Zar'it barracks in the direction of the Marwahin-Ramiyah-Jabal Balat triangle.